

**Remarks/Arguments**

Claims 1-13 are pending.

**Objection to claims 1-11 and 13 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.**


Applicants submit that the objections to claims 1-11 and 13 are overcome in view of the amendment to claims 1 and 13. Claim 1 has been amended to recite "an internal clock of each portal" and the phrase "the receiver portal's own clock" has been amended to read "the receiver portal's internal clock". Claim 13 has been amended to recite "an absolute value of a reference clock." In view of the amendments, applicants submit that the cited portions of claims 1 and 13 have proper antecedent basis, and the objection is overcome.

Claim 12 has been allowed.

Claims 1 and 2-11 have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

In view of the above, applicants submit that this application stands in condition for allowance. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: July 16, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to [Mail Stop Amendments], Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

July 16, 2004  
Date

  
Jennifer L. Agins